



# THE COVERING - PRAYER GUIDE

## FEBRUARY-MAY, 2020

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## Arts & Entertainment

MOUNTAIN

### Redemptive Purpose:

To reveal truth and beauty, and to advance the Kingdom of God through creative expression.

### Primary Stronghold:

Idolatry - Exaltation of man or creation

### KANYE WEST

**Pray for Kanye to be a Kingdom Ambassador.** Famous rapper, producer and designer Kanye West turned the heads of critics and fans alike with his release of “Jesus Is King”. This is an answer to prayer! However, given his previous musical offerings, many Christians have been wary of his newfound devotion to Christ, and worry that he may have ulterior motives or at the very least not have the maturity to represent Christ well from his platform.

- Pray that Kanye continues to encounter God in increasingly deeper and transforming ways, and that his heart would be full of pure worship to the King.
- Pray Kanye’s expansive platform would be used to glorify God, and people would not put their trust in any man.
- Pray the church has wisdom, love, and grace for Kanye, and celebrates the work God is doing in him.
- Pray for open doors to invite Kanye to Bethlehem’s annual Musikfest and that he would agree to come.

*James 1:17, Romans 11:29, 1 Peter 4:10, Matthew 5:14-16, Romans 12:9*

### THE DELL

**Pray that The Dell Music Center would be a beacon of light in our city.** Located in East Fairmount Park, the Dell Music Center is a world class amphitheater that markets itself as Philadelphia’s premier outdoor entertainment venue. The Dell hosts major concert acts from across the nation, as well as a variety of other events and festivals. Believers who are in positions of influence within The Dell’s leadership are intent on opening the door for Kingdom minded opportunities.

- Pray The Dell would be blessed abundantly and continue to thrive as a local business and champion of the arts.
- Pray for wisdom and boldness for those involved in making booking decisions.
- Pray that The Dell would champion acts and artists that would release light into our city and not darkness.

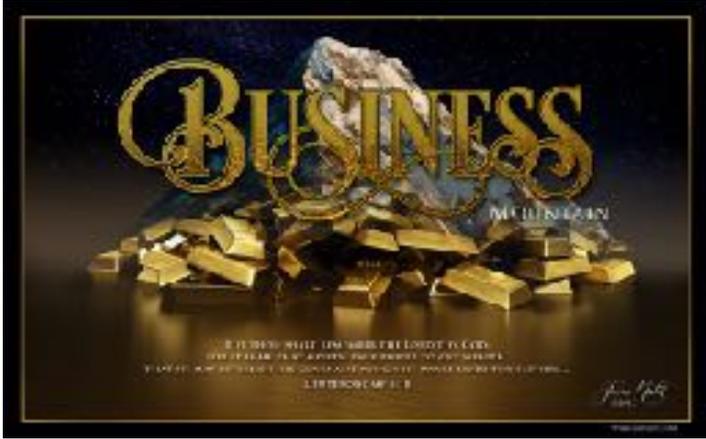
*Exodus 25:40, Habakkuk 2:14, 2 Chronicles 2:5-7, Psalm 101:3*

### CULTURAL SENSITIVITY

**Pray that Philadelphia would lead the way in art and entertainment that values the image of God in all people.** This is not about a political buzzword, it is about Kingdom principles. All art tells a story, and sometimes that story devalues others in ways that we might call racism, sexism, etc. In a recent example of this, Mayor Kenney put the Mummers Parade on notice that they need to be more culturally sensitive (particularly about racism) in their performances or risk being cancelled.

- Pray for a culture that doesn’t feel like walking on egg-shells around an easily triggered population, but one that eagerly celebrates the image of God in each and every person.
- Pray the Mummers come out of alignment with any root of darkness and align with Kingdom realities.
- Pray for art and entertainment that celebrates the love of God for ALL people regardless of age, skin color, gender, sexual orientation, age, religion, heritage or political views, etc.

*Genesis 1: 27, Isaiah 64: 8, Psalm 139: 13, John 3: 16*



## BUSINESS

MOUNTAIN

### Redemptive Purpose:

Wealth to establish God's covenant

### Primary Stronghold:

Greed, mammon, poverty.

### BUSINESSES THAT RESOURCE THE FIGHT AGAINST ONGOING VIOLENCE

**Pray for businesses that call Philadelphia home to intervene in the ongoing violence in Philadelphia.** Last year Philadelphia reached a decade-high homicide rate with over 356 murders. This year, the city is averaging one murder per day (on pace to exceed last year). A lack of resources is one of the main reasons for the current fight against violence.

- Pray Josephs/Esthers take their place in business to use their influence to stand in the gap for future generations.
- Pray local businesses connect with government officials to explore ways to help with ongoing violence in our city.
- Pray for business owners and CEO's to give generously to local law enforcement (for more officers and better equipment) and to resource programs that raise awareness and are geared towards violence prevention.

*Proverbs 13:22, Philippians 4:19, Proverbs 11:4, Isaiah 60:18, Genesis. 4:7*

### BREAKTHROUGH TECHNOLOGY

**Pray for businesses to discover technology that will help improve the quality of community policing.** In many ways technology has continued to make up for man power, for instance gun shot detection, license plate scanning, surveillance cameras, GPS, and rapid response background checks have helped police officers be more effective in preventing and investigating crimes, leading to arrests a lot more quickly than tradition investigation efforts.

- Pray for breakthrough technology that would help prevent crimes and improve police response times (to crimes in progress).
- Pray for tech companies to allocate time and money to research and development toward improved policing.
- Pray for the federal government to invest in businesses dedicated to innovation related to reducing crime.

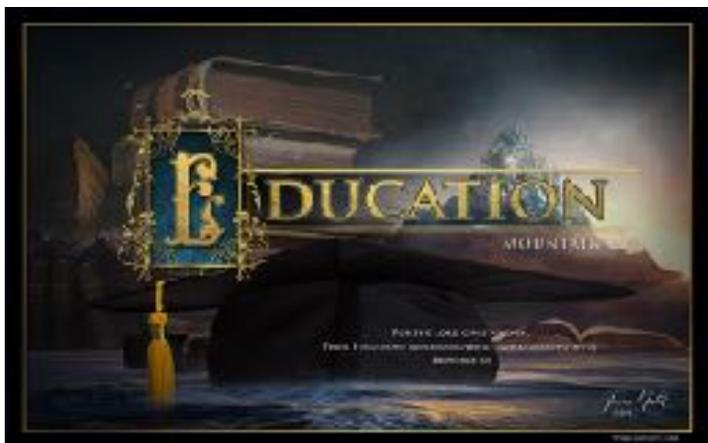
*2 Timothy 3:17, Nehemiah 2:18, Exodus 31:1-5, John 1:3*

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

**Pray for businesses to find innovative ways to create work opportunities for previous offenders, homeless, teens parents, and veterans.** Statistics show that most crimes are committed as a result of poor parenting, poverty, frustration that results from economic need and lack. A study found that earning money through a legitimate work reduces crime dramatically and also lures younger people away from illicit activity.

- Pray for businesses that understand the power of an opportunity, and pray for chances to be afforded to those in need.
- Pray for previous offenders to choose the alternative path.
- Pray for services/programs that help prepare vets, homeless, teens, parents, and previous offenders for the work place.

*Proverbs 28:27, Matthew 6:34, 1 Peter 3:9, Proverbs 10:22, Jeremiah 17:7-8*



## EDUCATION

MOUNTAIN

### Redemptive Purpose:

To teach the truth of God and His Word

### Primary Stronghold:

Satan - the father of lies (John 8:44), pride, secular humanism

### **BUILDING CONDITIONS AND REAL ESTATE**

**Pray for safer building conditions.** The School District of Philadelphia has received a lot of scrutiny regarding poor building conditions, most recently with the reports of the presence of asbestos. Additionally, Drexel University has partnered with the school district to construct a new building at the site of the previously closed University City High School, which is planned to open in the Fall 2020. This endeavor is similar to the establishment of Penn Alexander, which was funded by UPenn.

- Pray the district will renew its vow and moral responsibilities to care for students, teachers, and staff by providing safe building conditions.
- Pray for wise contractors to safely modify and restore school buildings without health risks to anyone.
- Pray for the proper reallocation of financial resources to fund school districts properly and for philanthropists (such as universities) to donate funds necessary to bring buildings up to code and provide educational spaces.

*Isaiah 62, John 14:1-3, Isaiah 61:1-5, James 1:5, James 3:17, Philippians 4:19*

### **QUALITY OF EDUCATION FOR STUDENTS OF COLOR**

**Pray for a closing of the “access” gap for poor and non-white students.** A report has ranked Pennsylvania 47th among 50 states for providing equitable access to quality education for poor and non-white students. The same report suggested more screenings be conducted to identify students for advanced coursework (gifted and AP courses) and talent development.

- Pray for a spirit of wisdom and revelation for “cupbearers” in Pennsylvania government to remember the talents of the oppressed and recognize them as the inheritance of the region.
- Pray that poor and non-white groups will honor any sacrifices made on their behalf to close achievement gaps.
- Pray that poor and non-white students recognize opportunities to be set apart for promotion even in the midst of oppression just as Joseph in Egypt, and Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in Babylon.

*Ephesians 1:17-19, 2:14-18, Daniel 1:6-20, Proverbs 22:2, Romans 2:11*

### **IEP/504 PLAN STUDENTS**

Individual Education Plan (IEP) students are ones identified as needing specific accommodations by law to assist in their education due to various health complications. These accommodations can be overlooked and/or abused by stakeholders. Some educators have observed these students often among the “trouble makers” in school and the community.

- Pray students will receive the resources and care allocated for them according to law.
- Pray that all stakeholders (teachers, administrators and parents) will implement the strategies that have been set by Special Education Teachers.
- Pray any correlation between IEPs and “trouble making” will be closely examined to identify alternative educational strategies designed to reduce tendencies to lawlessness and violence.

*Proverbs 3:5-6. John 9:1-3. Romans 8:28. Romans 12:2. Jeremiah 29:11*



## FAMILY MOUNTAIN

### **Redemptive Purpose:**

To demonstrate the unconditional love of God

### **Primary Stronghold:**

Rejection (real or perceived)

### **ELIMINATING ROOTS OF VIOLENCE – SACRIFICE OF INNOCENT BLOOD**

**Pray Philadelphia becomes a sanctuary city for the unborn.** There is no one single cause of the escalating violence in Philadelphia, so we have to close as many doors as possible. One relates to “abominations” (Ezekiel 8:17) such as sacrificing children to Molech (Leviticus 18:21) – modern day abortion.

- Declare Zoe Life over all children born and unborn, and pray abortion providers will be shut down.
- Pray for a revelation of abortion as murder that motivates mothers/families to turn to adoption as an alternative.
- Pray repentance and healing for parents and providers, pimps and prostitutes who have participated in abortion.
- Pray protection and favor for the nine PA lawmakers who, as part of an amicus brief, asked the Supreme Court to overturn Roe v Wade.

*Genesis 1:17, Psalm 139:13-16, Jeremiah 1:5, Exodus 20:13, Proverbs 6:16-19*

### **ELIMINATING ROOTS OF VIOLENCE – IDOLATRY AND SEXUAL SIN**

**Pray for a supernatural revelation of covenant.** A report from WalletHub named Philadelphia the 6<sup>th</sup> most “sinful” city in the nation, listing lust, anger, hatred, jealousy, excesses, vices, greed, vanity and laziness - secular versions of the seven deadly sins and Ezekiel 8:17 abominations. Restoring covenant with God will help reverse the curses brought on by these sins.

<https://wallethub.com/edu/most-sinful-cities-in-america/29846/>

- Declare Matthew 22:37-40 over the people of Philadelphia.
- Pray Holy Spirit draws the generations to the Lord with dreams, visions and the testimonies of the Saints.
- Pray deep Holy Spirit conviction of sin so all come to repentance and seek a covenant relationship with God.
- Pray agape love replace trauma, that broken relationships are restored and Brotherly Love prevails.

*Psalm 78, Genesis 3:1-5, Genesis 9:11, Hebrews 13:20-21, Psalm 103:17-18*

### **URBAN MISSIONARIES**

**Pray protection and favor for the urban missionaries working in Kensington.** Amid sirens, lockdowns, and addicts shooting up on their doorsteps; people of faith combat the plagues that primed the neighborhood to become the epicenter of the country’s urban opioid crisis. <https://www.inquirer.com/news/columnists/kensington-opioid-crisis-welcome-center-mother-of-mercy-faith-groups-20190201.html>

- Declare the Lord’s protection over Sisters of Saint Joseph Welcome Center and other ministries and outreaches working in opioid infested neighborhoods.
- Pray missionaries receive greater revelation regarding the weapons of their warfare, so they have greater anointing and authority to dismantle the powers and principalities around them.
- Pray for healing from the trauma experienced by these missionaries over years of working with the addicted.

*Psalm 91, Psalm 90:17, Job 6:14, Matthew 5:7, Matthew 25:35-40, 45*



## Government

MOUNTAIN

### Redemptive Purpose:

To rule and legislate with righteousness and justice

### Primary Stronghold:

Anti-Christ spirit, pride, corruption

### LEGISLATIVE DISSONANCE

**Pray the Mayor's office and City Council agree on legislation addressing the city's most pressing issues.** In December, two bills addressing the crucial issue of poverty were "pocket vetoed" (a practice where bills are allowed to expire and die when a new City Council takes office) by the Mayor. One of the bills passed City Council with a unanimous vote and is now being reintroduced in City Council. Another major issue is gun control and how to handle rising violence. While all parties agree these issues are an "embarrassment", the legislative dissonance has hindered further progress.

- Pray that all involved in determining the legislative agenda can put the best interest of the people of the city first.
- Pray for all spirits of division and disunity to be stopped and for the Spirit of the Lord to lead all involved. Declare the Seven Spirits of God over City Council and the Mayor.
- Pray that divine wisdom and practical implementation be the plumb line that all begin to coalesce around.

*Isaiah 11:2-5, James 3: 3, 17, James 4:6, Philippians 2:3-4, 1 Timothy 2:1-4*

### NEW POLICE COMMISSIONER, DANIELLE OUTLAW

**Pray Commissioner Outlaw becomes an effective transformation catalyst for PPD and the city.** Given the scandals of sexual harassment within PPD, various political agendas, the opioid crisis and escalating violence; Philadelphia needs a strong police commissioner.

- Pray the wisdom of her words and actions gains support from all stakeholders, the log-jam of agendas and politics is broken and schemes against her are exposed and eliminated.
- Pray she quickly gains information and insight needed to lead in Philadelphia, as well as a loyal support team.
- Pray she can bring police, prosecutors, activists and elected officials together to solve policing problems, develop strategies to deal with violence and take back control of the city's streets.

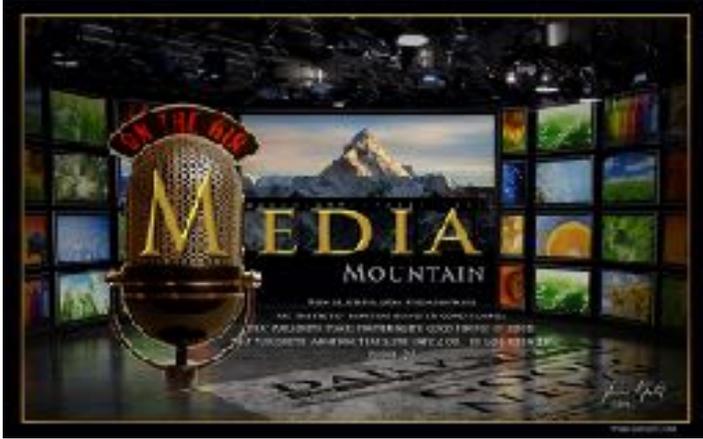
*Matthew 5:9, Proverbs 21:15, Romans 13:4, Proverbs 28:1, Proverbs 3:4*

### NO MORE BUSINESS AS USUAL

**Pray all ineffective, unethical and illegal government practices are replaced with Godly practices and principles throughout city government.** Given the media attention on corruption, growing pressure for positive change, and the partnerships of effective change agents; the "transformation movement" in Philadelphia has almost reached a tipping point. What's missing is government free of special interests, political agendas and small thinking bureaucrats.

- Declare demonic thrones, ungodly principalities and powers, and ungodly authority structures dismantled and replaced by leaders that represent the mind of Christ, heart of God and vision of the Holy Experiment.
- Pray that all special interests are exposed and replaced by responsible, transparent, honest servant leadership committed to solving the city's problems, with the well being of all in mind.
- Pray wisdom for emerging organizations and leaders who are challenging the status quo.

*Amos 9:13, Isaiah 62:1-5, 2 Thessalonians 3:1, Mark 10:42-45, Proverbs 16:9*



## MEDIA MOUNTAIN

### **Redemptive Purpose:**

To share the good news of the gospel and the Kingdom of God through uncensored, unbiased truth

### **Primary Stronghold:**

Fear, terror, and manipulation of truth

### **MEDIA GENERALS**

**Pray those within the media who determine what is presented and by whom, do so for the purpose of telling the truth without bias.** It has become evident that some media leaders have a specific agenda. They control the messaging - what news is covered, how it is presented, who presents it, and what fact checks are done, if any.

- Pray Holy Spirit convicts the Generals of sin, righteousness, and judgment, leading them to reset their agenda to present unbiased news or that God replace them with others who will commit to unbiased reporting.
- Pray wisdom and favor over those who work within media that seek to know and follow God's leading.
- Pray Holy Spirit leads more people to overcome their own bias and look for multiple news perspectives.
- Pray the media shares stories of people and faith-based organizations that are having a positive impact.

*John 16:8-11, 2 Timothy 2:1-4, John 8:31-32, 2 Kings 7:9*

### **CHRISTIAN RADIO STATIONS**

**Pray God keeps Christian radio stations steadfast and biblically based.** Philadelphia has a rich history of Christian radio. These stations have been a critical source of biblical encouragement and information to the Body of Christ the city at large.

- Pray for the relationships and support so critical to keeping Christian radio on the air.
- Pray that many will be moved to listen and take to heart the messages and stories shared in music or word and that they promote and encourage the Body of Christ in our region.
- Pray for clear guidance, success, and blessings for the leaders and staff.

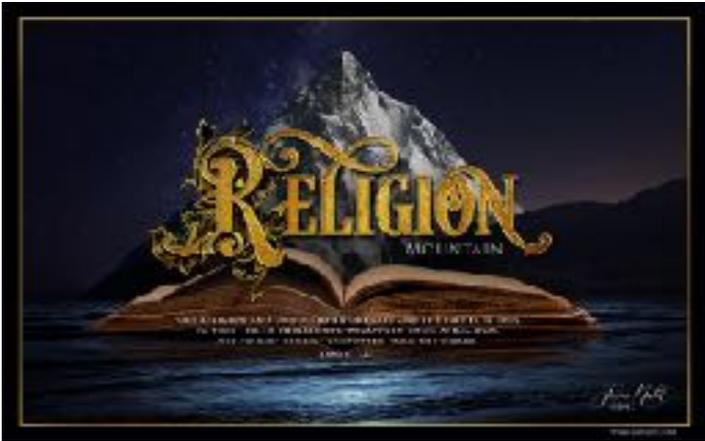
*Isaiah 55:1-13, Isaiah 61:1, Proverbs 25:25, Mark 16:15*

### **TECHNOLOGY**

**Pray wisdom for the designers/developers of technical tools and those who make the final decisions on what they are and how they are used.** Pennsylvania and the City of Philadelphia are considering different technical tools such as [AuntBertha.org](http://AuntBertha.org) in order to make information available about organizations providing social and other services.

- Pray that the decisions made will not impact the ability of faith-based and other grassroots organizations to participate or to carryout their work.
- Pray for the development of websites and capabilities that originate from and serve to engage those in their own community in addressing issues of common concern.
- Pray that God will show those in their community their own assets and God given gifts already in place and how to utilize them to bring positive change.

*Proverbs 2:6, Proverbs 11:2, Isaiah 55:8, Proverbs 18:15*



## RELIGION

MOUNTAIN

### Redemptive Purpose:

Equipping the saints for the work of ministry

### Primary Stronghold:

Idolatry that steals worship from God

### CHANGES AT THE TOP OF CHRISTIAN DENOMINATIONS

**Pray for the guidance of Holy Spirit in each of these changes.** Pope Francis named Bishop Nelson Jesus Perez, the Archbishop of Philadelphia to lead the 1.4 million Catholics in Philadelphia and the surrounding counties.

- Pray that he will as a beacon of light to eliminate any darkness that remains in the Catholic Church in our region.
- Pray the Lord uses him to bring back another outpouring of Holy Spirit upon our Catholic brothers and sisters.

The United Methodist Church has decided to ordain gay clergymen and women and to perform same sex marriages. According to [billypenn.com](http://billypenn.com) in Philadelphia, 17 of the 43 UMC churches are in full agreement with the UMC but the remaining two-thirds are still deciding whether to stay with the UMC or to form a new denomination.

- Pray that those in authority would recognize that the enemy is purposely and strategically infiltrating the ranks of authority of the church to destroy it.
- Pray that the people of God realize holiness is non-negotiable, and that true Ephesians 4 leadership would arise.
- Pray that out of the ashes of denominationalism will arise the one church that Jesus prayed for in John 17.

*John 17:20-23, Ephesians 5:6-17, 2 Corinthians 2:11, 1 Timothy 2:1-4, Hebrews 12:14*

### NATIONAL AND REGIONAL EVENTS IN PHILADELPHIA IN 2020

**Pray for the following regional and national events happening in Philadelphia.** Pray for great fruit from these events as well as the overcoming of all obstacles, and supplying of all needs.

Ascend 2020 - Feb. 20-22, 2020, In The Light Ministries, 191 W Hunting Park Avenue, Philadelphia

Restoring The Holy Seed Of A Nation - May 1, 2020, New Covenant Church, 7500 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia

National Day of Prayer Gathering - May 7, 2020, Independence Mall, Philadelphia

Jubilee 2020 - May 26-June 2, 2020 - Independence Mall, Philadelphia

National Day of Prayer Annual Summit - September 11-13, 2020 - Philadelphia

*Matthew 18:20, Psalm 133:1, 1 Corinthians 5:4, Matthew 3:2*

### FALSE RELIGIONS AND THE OCCULT AS ROOTS OF VIOLENCE

**Pray that all of the ways that false religions and the occult contribute to the violence in Philadelphia will be exposed and eliminated.** Occult practices such as Santeria, Voodoo and sexual ritual abuse/child sacrifice are happening across the region. In many cases, they are linked to child pornography, child snatching and human trafficking. There are also religions that teach false doctrines by perverting the word of God. These are all “abominations” to the Lord and open doors to spirits of violence/murder and more (Ezekiel 8:17).

- Pray the Spirit of Truth will expose and replace false doctrine and those who have practiced the occult and false religions come to a saving knowledge of Christ.
- Pray occult practices and practitioners will be exposed and their curses are reversed.
- Pray for the Church to repent and break agreement where we have been complicit with these even in subtle ways.
- Pray more intercessors pray without ceasing regarding the spiritual roots of violence.

*Exodus 20:3, 1 Timothy 1:4, Deuteronomy 18:10-12, Matthew 7:15-20*



## GENERAL PROPHETIC

The following are prophetic perceptions gleaned from a time of prayer and sharing of several respected leaders in the Greater Philadelphia region. The points below are areas where many were sensing the same thing from the Lord.

### SENSITIVITY TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

**Pray for the Church in the Delaware Valley to be more sensitive than ever to the Spirit of the Lord.** In some cases, sensitivity to the Holy Spirit is being replaced by excessive rules, dogmatism, or cultural norms. In other cases, it is thrown out in favor of licentiousness and worldliness. We must return to the moorings of the truth of the word of God and the revealing of truth by the Holy Spirit. Sensitivity to the Holy Spirit allows us to transcend the binary (chose "only" A or B) choices the world often presents and allows us to go beyond 'taking sides'.

- Pray for the fruit and gift of discernment to be released in/through the Church in the region (1 Corinthians 12:10).
- Pray for the conviction of the Holy Spirit to break out in the Church (John 16:7-11).
- Declare that the ways of the Lord are our portion and we will not get caught up in 'taking sides' unnecessarily (Matthew 22:15-22).

*1 Corinthians 2:14, 1 Thessalonians 1:4-5, John 14:26, 2 Corinthians 13:14, Hebrews 5:14*

### STRATEGIC WISDOM

**Pray for the church to engage with the wisdom of God in a deeper way.** The Lord is a master strategist. Many have had a sense that He is moving pieces on a chessboard in this season for His glory. The greatest display of the wisdom of God was the cross, which, although it looked like foolishness and defeat, was the ultimate triumphant blow dealt to sin, death and hell as God 'checkmated' the enemy.

- Pray that these next two years be a time of God establishing Kingdom minded leaders in all areas of influence in our region (Proverbs 11:10).
- Pray believers have sensitive and listening hearts, which positioned Solomon to receive wisdom (1 Kings 3:7-12).
- Declare the Lord is strengthening and giving strategy to those who would turn back darkness from the city, especially as it relates to violence (Isaiah 28:5-6).

*Jeremiah 23:4, James 1:5, Proverbs 24:3-4, Luke 21:14-15*

### REFINING THE BODY OF CHRIST

**Pray that the Church in the Delaware Valley receive the refining fire of the Lord.** There are seasons when God is less tolerant with the sins of His people (Joshua 7, Acts 5:1-11). Many believe this is such a season. Sin's compromise causes us to lose our authority to speak to issues that plague the city and keep us action-less and even prayer-less.

- Pray for a hunger and thirst for righteousness to overtake the people of God (Matthew 5:6).
- Pray for believers to recognize behavior that God calls sinful even though it may be culturally acceptable (Isaiah 6).
- Declare a breaking free of the chains of pornography, unbelief and the false prophetic (divination) (1 Peter 2:16).
- Pray for a spirit of repentance regarding times when we as believers have brought violence against someone with our lips and it has opened the door for violence in our city (Matthew 5:21-22, Proverbs 10:11).

*Hebrews 12:14, Revelation 3:18, 2 Corinthians 7:1, Malachi 3:2-3*